

IN HONOR OF SENATOR SHIRLEY
A. SMITH

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Senator Shirley A. Smith of the State of Ohio's 21st Senate District.

Senator Smith began her career as a radio talk-show host interviewing prominent politicians and community leaders for a major Cleveland station before changing pace and working for a television network affiliate.

Beginning in 1999, Senator Smith served 8 years as an Ohio House Representative from the 10th district until assuming office in the Ohio Senate in 2007. Throughout her legislative career, she has been a strong advocate for the socially and economically disadvantaged as displayed through her membership on the Senate Health, Human Services and Aging; Finance; Reference; Criminal Justice; and Rules Committees. She also serves as Assistant Minority Leader, acts as State Director for the Women Legislators' Lobby, and has served as both the Secretary and President of the Ohio Legislative Black Caucus.

Senator Smith's hard work and dedication throughout the years has earned her a Fannie Mae Foundation Fellowship at Harvard University, the Legislator of the Year Award in 2006 for her work with dental hygiene, a feature in the Crusader Newspaper acknowledging her work to repeal Ohio's use of the death penalty, and interviews on both MSNBC and Fox News Network's "The Morning Show with Mike and Juliet" advocating for the passage of Senate Bill 197, nicknamed the "Second Chance Bill."

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the achievements of Ohio Senator Shirley A. Smith.

RECOGNIZING THE WORK OF
PEOPLE FOR PUGET SOUND

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the work of the People for Puget Sound organization. For twenty years, this organization has been a strong voice for protecting one of the Pacific Northwest region's most valuable assets: the Puget Sound. After achieving many victories to protect the waterway, People for Puget Sound is transferring its programs to other organizations and concluding its operations.

Established in 1991, People for Puget Sound has worked to restore the fish and wildlife in the Puget Sound by creating clean and healthy land and waters that can be enjoyed by future generations. The organization worked to educate people who work and live throughout the Puget Sound basin about the shared responsibilities in protecting this resource.

Throughout its history, People for Puget Sound hosted countless events to bring volunteers out to restore habitats. Restoration ecologists worked throughout the Puget Sound

region to give citizens the tools to protect the Sound where they work and live.

In addition to educating and engaging the public, People for Puget Sound has been a fierce advocate for the protection of environmental safeguards. For years, volunteers have gathered annually to speak with their representatives about steps that could be taken to clean up the Puget Sound.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I recognize the valuable work of People for Puget Sound. Although the organization is dissolving, I know the values and dedication of its staff and thousands of members from across the region will continue to protect the Puget Sound.

HONORING PASTOR MARQUES L.
FLETCHER

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following proclamation.

Whereas, Pastor Marques L. Fletcher is celebrating thirteen (13) years in ministry this year as Pastor of Young Street Community Baptist Church; and

Whereas, Pastor Marques L. Fletcher, under the guidance of God has pioneered and sustained Young Street Community Baptist Church, as an instrument in our community that uplifts the spiritual, physical and mental welfare of our citizens; and

Whereas, this remarkable and tenacious man of God has given hope to the hopeless, fed the hungry and is a beacon of light to those in need; and

Whereas, Pastor Fletcher is a spiritual warrior, a man of compassion, a fearless leader and a servant to all, but most of all a visionary who has shared not only with his Church, but with our District and the world his passion to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Pastor Marques L. Fletcher as he celebrates his thirteenth Pastoral Anniversary at Young Street Community Baptist Church;

Now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby proclaim September 16, 2012 as Pastor Marques L. Fletcher Day in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 16th day of September, 2012.

IN HONOR OF COUNCILMAN
TERRELL PRUITT

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Councilman Terrell Pruitt, who is currently serving as the representative for Ward 1 on the Cleveland City Council.

Councilman Pruitt has been representing Ward 1, which includes the Lee-Harvard and Miles neighborhoods on the southeast side of Cleveland, since 2008. Since coming to office,

the Councilman has focused on the continued development of his community. He has worked tirelessly to maintain a safe community in which Clevelanders can thrive while making constituent services a top priority.

Councilman Pruitt has been a strong advocate of education and understands the impact that it can have on a community. He has maintained a close relationship with the Cleveland Metropolitan School District and supports policies that will increase the quality of education in the District. He has volunteered his time and service to the Governor's Close the Gap Campaign which helps supports students at the local high school to ensure their educational success. Along with his support of education, Councilman Pruitt continues to work towards ensuring a positive job outlook for his constituents by providing job training and continuing education opportunities.

Outside of his position as Councilman, Pruitt served tours in Afghanistan, led hurricane relief missions in Louisiana and serves as the Captain in the Ohio Army National Guard.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honoring Cleveland City Councilman Terrell Pruitt.

FISA AMENDMENTS ACT
REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 12, 2012

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to the FISA Amendments Reauthorization Act of 2012. Clearly, we must work to ensure that our intelligence and law enforcement communities continue to have the tools they need to protect American citizens. It is critically important, however, that in our effort to defend the liberties we cherish, we not enact measures that erode the very freedoms we seek to protect.

This legislation, in its current form, still contains flaws which fail to ensure robust oversight of this program. Specifically, some of the amendments offered by my colleagues on the Judiciary and Intelligence Committees to increase transparency and shorten the sunset should have been included in the final bill. Unfortunately, we are considering this legislation under a closed rule, and no amendments can be offered to the full House.

We must work to reauthorize this program in a balanced way that provides our experts with the authority they need to protect Americans while upholding the values enshrined in our Constitution. I look forward to working with our colleagues in the Senate to reform these provisions so that we don't need to make the false choice between security and freedom.

INTRODUCING MEDICARE
TRANSITIONAL CARE ACT OF 2012

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, today, together with a group of bipartisan cosponsors,